

Message Text

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71

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /021 W

----- 108175

R 120935Z MAR 76

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5012

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0259

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRN,MZ,RH,SF

SUBJ: CAPE TOWN HARBOR NOW OPERATING AT PEAK CAPACITY-UNLIKELY
TO BE AFFECTED BY RHODESIAN SHIPMENTS.

REF: (A) PRETORIA 1007 (B) STATE 056764

1. CAPE TOWN PORT DIRECTOR VAN DER BYL TOLD CONGEN OFF THAT
ANY INCREASE IN RHODESIAN CARGO SHIPPED THROUGH SOUTH AFRICA
WAS LIKELY TO HAVE LITTLE EFFECT HERE. PORT ELIZABETH AND DURBAN
WOULD BE PORTS MOST AFFECTED. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT OPENING
OF NEW BULK HANDLING PORT AT RICHARDS BAY IN APRIL WOULD
BE SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE SOUTH AFRICA'S
ABILITY TO LOAD ORES AND OTHER BULK CARGOS. HE DECLINED TO
SPECULATE ON ABILITY OF SAR TO MOVE ADDITIONAL CARGOES
HOWEVER.

2. VAN DER BYL SAID THAT SINCE LOADING OF DECIDUOUS FRUIT
GOT INTO FULL SWING AT BEGINNING OF THIS MONTH, HARBOR HAS REACHED
100 PERCENT UTILIZATION. THIS CONTRASTS WITH UTILIZATION
RATE OF 60-70 PERCENT IN PREVIOUS MONTHS. HE SAID PEAK UTILIZATION WILL,

AS IN PAST YEARS, CONTINUE THROUGH MAY WHEN DECIDUOUS FRUIT
WILL START TO TAPER OFF. HE SAID THAT OPENING OF CONTAINER
TERMINAL HERE NEXT YEAR WILL SPEED UP LOADING/UNLOADING
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TIMES, FREE UP CONSIDERABLE STORAGE CAPACITY AND EASE DEMANDS

ON RAILWAYS IN CAPE TOWN HARBOUR.

GAMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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